lish, or Spanish, or a dialect, as the national language. When relations with the United States are partially severed, my guess is that the teaching of the dialects in the primary grades will be tried out. It is further my belief that at the end of the ten-year transition period, English will have been so firmly implanted in the Islands as a national language that the Filipino leaders, following the line of least resistance, will automatically continue its use.

HEALTH [7]

The triumph of American medical science over nature is known to all in the construction of the Panama Canal. The victory over disease was as complete in the Philippines, but has been not so well advertised to the world. Let me give you the highlights of the story.

Sanitary conditions in the Philippines were deplorable at the time of the American occupation. The death-rate was so high that the population was at a standstill. Smallpox was regularly carrying off thousands of persons. Asiatic cholera came in epidemic waves and was much feared. Infant mortality reached an enormous figure. The City of Manila, the capital and metropolis of the archipelago, possessed no sewerage system and was encircled by a moat among a network of canals, all of which were filled with half-stagnant water and sewage wherein bred countless numbers of mosquitoes. In all the archipelago there was not one modernly equipped hospital.

Then Dn Victor G. Heiser, Passed Assistant Surgeon, United States Public Health and Quarantine Service, was

named Director of Health. He occupied the two positions of Chief Quarantine Officer and Director of Health from 1905 to 1915. Even after leaving these posts, Dr. Heiser, as visiting

[7] **Section read by Dr. Jacobo Fajardo, Director of Health. See Dr. Robert W. Hart, formerly Chief Quarantine Officer of the Philippine Islands, *The PhiU[I]p$ines Today* (1928), pp. 28, 29.**